FEDERAL SECURITY AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

IN REPLYING, ADDRESS THE

Communicable Disease Center
Enteric Bacteriology Laboratories
P. O. Box 185
Chamblee, Georgia

November 19, 1952

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The University of Wisconsin
Department of Genetics
Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I believe the enclosed report will be perfectly clear to you. You will note that the phases which you could not identify were z_{33}. Such forms are to be expected when b antigens are placed in contact with agglutinating serum. Note that the identities of SW-680 and SW-681 were reversed.

We have just started working on your last shipment of cultures and find that your SW-666 is nonmotile. Would you clarify the nature of this culture for us?

You asked about culture 157. This is a stable 1,2 phase which Cherry obtained from a culture of S. paratyphi B var. java about 10 years ago. This phase was obtained in the usual manner by use of b serum. It has shown no tendency toward reversion.

You inquired about the agglutination of your 248 culture in slide agglutination tests. I am hesitant to say anything about this because long distance diagnosis often is incorrect. You may be getting O agglutination or there may be some flagellated nonmotile elements in the culture. I believe the latter possibility is quite unlikely. Could we have your original 248?

It should be said that the various induced forms which came from S. paratyphi B all reacted similarly in 10 standard typing phages supplied by Felix. Apparently the manipulations to which they had been subjected had no effect upon their phage susceptibility. The pattern of reactions displayed by these cultures was not typical of any particular phage type of S. paratyphi B.

With kind regards, I am

For the Officer-in-Charge, Bacteriology Section

Sincerely yours,

P. R. Edwards

PRE:mg

Philip R. Edwards, Ph. D.
Bacteriologist-in-Charge
Enteric Bacteriology Unit

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